

As regards the provision of a playground, it is a matter which is engaging the attention of Government. Some sites have been suggested and orders will be passed very soon.

The question of metalling the Cutcherry road will be referred to the Road Board.

As regards the removal of arrack and toddy shops from within the municipal limits, the answer I gave to the representations of other members that the result of an experiment that is being tried in Changanacherry is being watched will apply to this also.

An estimate has been sanctioned for the construction of bathing ghats in the Neyyar river and it is reported that the work is in progress.

With regard to the reduction of the speed of motor vehicles, there is already a rule that it shall not exceed 12 miles in a public place, 8 miles within the limits of a Police town and 6 miles near a school or a market. It is not desirable to reduce it further.

76. Needs of the Neyyattinkara taluk,

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara taluk, Group I*) spoke about the need for the restoration of minor irrigation works in the taluk. So far as the Neyyattinkara taluk was concerned, the chief sources of water supply were the irrigation tanks. But most of them were in a neglected condition and many had been registered away. On a rough estimate prepared some time back, there were 875 tanks in the taluk. It was regrettable that the Government had selected only 136 tanks for restoration and, even of those 136, only 40 had been actually restored. In selecting the tanks for restoration no principle was followed, such as their usefulness or necessity. The selection was made at the whims and fancies of the officers responsible. The way in which the restoration work was carried out was also not satisfactory. If those things were brought to the notice of the Government, the representations were not given due weight and consideration as wanting in technical knowledge. The same was the case in regard to new schemes suggested by the agriculturists. A dam across the Neyyar at Aruvikkara would be useful to irrigate a large extent of paddy lands. That scheme was investigated by the Government and given up; but the agriculturists still believed in its usefulness and hence the repeated representations at the Assembly and elsewhere. In the same way, the Kottukal eastern channel was completed, but the western channel was given up. The work finished was practically of no use. After the completion of the Kodayar Project, no irrigation work worth the name had been undertaken by the Government. It showed the indifferent attitude of the Government in regard to the development of irrigational sources. But the member hoped that the new regime would inaugurate a new era of irrigational schemes. The Aruvikara scheme and the Kodayar Right Bank channel scheme on which an expenditure of about Rs. 3 lakhs had been incurred should be taken up for reconsideration and investigated.

The member referred to the lapse of budget allotments provided for the improvement of minor irrigation. In 1105, a sum of Rs. 25,000 had been provided for the purpose for the Neyyattinkara taluk. But although 7 months of the year had elapsed, no tank had been taken up for restoration.

The improvement of the Amaravila—Ottassekharamangalam road was the subject matter of several representations at previous sessions. As a result, only two bridges and one culvert had been finished on the road. There were four other culverts and a bridge across the Chittar yet to be finished. They should be taken in hand without delay. If they were completed and a bridge at Mandapathumkadavu also constructed, communication to Kattakada, Nedumangad and other places would be rendered easy.

There had been several representations for the construction of bridges at Mandapathumkadavu and Kallikad. Any one of them would be enough for the time being.

The next request of the member was for the conversion of the ryots' road from Aryankod market in the Ottassekharamangalam *paluthi* to Panachimud into a cart road. It was absolutely necessary for the ryots for the transport of agricultural produce to the markets.

The previous Dewan was convinced of the necessity for a bridge at Poovar and said in reply to a representation that the Chief Engineer would be asked to take up the work. But no work had yet been started. It should be expedited.

The metalling of the roads of the Neyyattinkara town was another urgent need. Of these roads, the Cutcherry road and the road leading to the Magistrate's Court, Excise office, *satram*, etc., required immediate attention.

The need for an English School for girls had already been urged by the previous speaker and the member had nothing more to add.

The river bank from Krishnankovil *Kadavu* to Kottarakadavu was giving way in places owing to natural causes. The bank should be walled up and bathing ghats constructed for men and women separately.

Lastly, the member pressed the need for a dispensary at Vellarada which was a malarial place. The Inspecting Medical Officer had recommended the opening of a dispensary there and the Government should sanction it at an early date.

DEWAN'S REPLY:—Mr. Padmanabha Pillai, your first subject refers to minor irrigation. Naturally there are differences of opinion on this subject. But Government are trying to do whatever is possible in this direction. It will be considered by a committee which is to be constituted very shortly.

Your second subject will be referred to the Road Board, and I trust that next year's budget will be estimated mainly on the recommendations of that Board.

Your 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th points will also be referred to the Road Board.

I have already given answers to your eighth subject in reply to previous representations.

As regards the 9th subject, I suppose you mean that that would be of use to all classes. That work is being done by the Maramat Engineer and will be completed before long and that will satisfy your requirements.

As regards the opening of a dispensary at Vellarada, Government also feel the necessity and the matter will be referred to the Medical Board.

The Assembly adjourned at 4-55 P. M. to meet again at 11-30 A. M. on Monday, the 10th March, 1930.